DC

5

POISON IVY™

WILSON
TAKARA
LEVEL
GAUDIANO
PRIANTO

DADDY'S HOME

AGES 13+
DCCOMICS.COM

JUSTICE GOES GLOBAL!

BATMAN INCORPORATED

Ghost-Maker and his international team take on the world!

Written by
ED BRISSON

Art by
JOHN TIMMS

DC

October

© & ™ DC.

Eventually, it all comes back to Seattle.

I KNEW YOU WOULD SAY YES.

ONLY YOU TRULY UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH.

I was 22. In my second semester of grad school. Certain I was going to be part of big things.

I used to think of Seattle as the beginning.

How long did he think I would survive like this?

A day?
A week?

A year?

It would take me a long time to realize...

Hnnngh!

...that like a lab rat, I was expected to die after I served my purpose.

It was right there in his voice.

You're tough. Not like the other girls.

You're going to hang on long enough to get some good data.

PROOF OF CONCEPT.

Nngh--

I--I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT THIS ANYMORE-- I'm starting to feel sick...

At that point, I leave my body. Everything that happens afterward happens to someone else.

She can feel it closing over her, like high tide sweeping across the beach.

The Green.

She thinks it's going to kill her.

NATURE IS NOT SENTIMENTAL. THE STRONG CONSUME THE WEAK AND THEN EXCRETE THEM TO FERTILIZE THE EARTH.

THAT IS THE VIRTUOUS CYCLE.

CONSUME. DIGEST. RENEW.

For a time, she hopes it will.

This time, he's here too.

WHY DO YOU ALWAYS COME BACK TO THIS MOMENT?

Too many mushrooms.

BECAUSE THIS IS WHERE IT ALL STARTED.

WOODRUE. GRAD SCHOOL. THIS IS WHERE POISON IVY WAS BORN.

RECURRING DREAMS ABOUT TORTURE. THAT DOESN'T SOUND VERY HEALTHY.

THAT'S GREAT COMING FROM A GUY WHO DRESSES UP LIKE--

A FLYING RODENT. FEEL FREE TO GUESS HOW MANY TIMES I'VE HEARD THAT JOKE.

PLEASE JUST GET OUT OF MY NIGHT-MARE!

CAN'T DO THAT. IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO WAKE UP.

YOU'RE GOING TO MISS YOUR EXIT.

What?

YOU'VE RUN OUT OF ROAD. IF YOU KEEP DRIVING, YOU'LL END UP IN ELLIOTT BAY.

SCREEEE

You've *really* lost it now.

ARE YOU *SERIOUSLY* GOING TO CONFRONT *WOODRUE* IN THIS *STATE?* YOU CAN BARELY *SEE.*

...I have no choice.

You don't even know he'll *be* here.

HE'LL BE HERE. HE'S BEEN *TAUNTING* ME FOR *TWO THOUSAND MILES.* HE *KNOWS* WHERE I'M HEADED.

AND THAT DOESN'T RING ANY *ALARM BELLS* IN THAT GINGER HEAD OF YOURS?

IF HE CAN TRACK YOU SO *EASILY,* IT MEANS THERE'S *SOMETHING* ABOUT THIS WHOLE SAD ODYSSEY YOU'VE FAILED TO *CONSIDER.*

I *KNOW.* BUT I *HAVE* TO FINISH WHAT I STARTED.

OTHER-WISE, WHAT WAS IT ALL *FOR?*

RIGHT. FINISH THE JOB. KILL THE *BAD GUY.*

AND THEN YOU GET ON THE *SHIP.*

...AND THEN I GET ON THE SHIP.

Finish the job. But how, when I have so little time left?

Oh boy. Here we go again.

Sh-SHUT UP.

I can feel the lamia pressing against the inside of my skull. It's constant now.

These memories. These visions of the past.

WHAT'S ALL THIS?

PRIMORDIAL FOREST.

IT'S WHAT WAS HERE BEFORE THE LOGGERS CAME AND CUT DOWN ALL THE OLD-GROWTH TREES.

The Green remembers what it once was.

Especially here, in one of the very last places on Earth ever put under the plow and the hacksaw.

In these forests, salmonberry bushes grew in strange, deliberate clusters.

It took ecologists decades to recognize that this was because the Indigenous peoples were interplanting them.

Cultivation in harmony with wilderness. Nature with civilization.

CAN WE STAY ON TASK, PLEASE?

It never had to get this bad. A better world was possible.

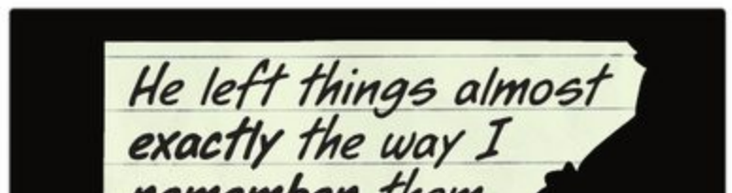
YOU REMEMBER WHICH ONE OF THESE CREEPY WAREHOUSES IS THE CORRECT CREEPY WARE-HOUSE?

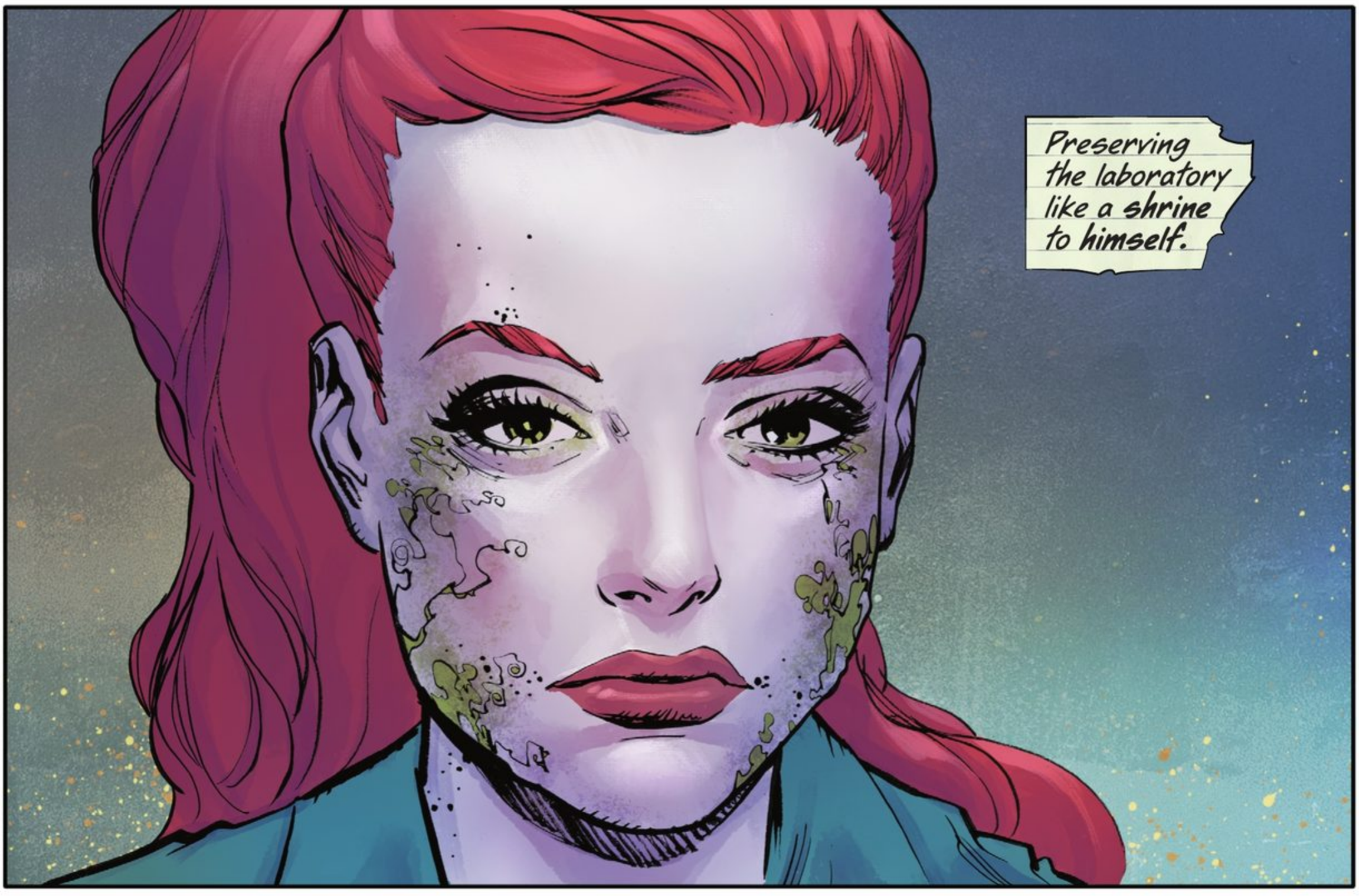
OF COURSE I DO. I REMEMBER EVERY-THING.

WHETHER I WANT TO OR NOT.

KLNG

KLANK


He left things almost exactly the way I remember them.


Preserving the laboratory like a shrine to himself.

The last time I walked into this room, I was someone else.

So young. So certain I was going to help save the world.

Even if I had to sacrifice my own body to do it.

When you're that young, you think death is the worst that can happen.

It takes a long time to learn that there are far, far worse things than dying.

YOU CAN'T STAY AWAY FROM ME, CAN YOU?

Of course he got here before me.

...YOU WILL ALWAYS SEEK ME OUT. YOUR TEACHER. YOUR MAKER.

The Green Man.

HOWEVER MUCH YOU MIGHT PRETEND TO HATE ME...

HELLO AGAIN, PAMELA.

Dr. Jason Woodrue.

He calls himself by other names, but to me, an adoring student scribbling in code in my journal, he was always this.

The dark spirit of the forest.

YOU'VE LEFT QUITE A *TRAIL OF DESTRUCTION* IN YOUR WAKE THESE PAST FEW WEEKS.

I *WANTED* TO SETTLE THIS *CALMLY*. WE WERE ON THE *SAME SIDE* ONCE.

I *ASSUME* YOU'VE BEEN GETTING MY *MESSAGES*.

I USED TO *THINK* SO.

UNTIL I REALIZED YOU'RE *NO DIFFERENT* FROM ANY *OTHER* WANNABE *BIOTECH ENTREPRENEUR*. YOU JUST DRESSED IT UP IN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE.

GHH-

AND YOU'RE GOING TO DO *WHAT?*

PUNISH ME FOR IT?

I can't give him time to think.

SPACK

AAAH

When you strike at a king, you must kill him.

GLKK

That's Emerson, but he got the idea from Machiavelli.

Sorry. I just think a lot about attribution.

AAHH!

YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN SUCH A DISAPPOINT-MENT.

A FAILED EXPERIMENT. TOO WEAK A VESSEL FOR WHAT I TRIED TO GIVE YOU.

NOT A HERO. NOT A SCIENTIST. JUST A LOST LITTLE GIRL WHO WAS HOT FOR TEACHER.

NO NO no, not again--

YOU'RE REALLY SCREWED NOW. HE'S GOING TO STEP ON YOU WITH THOSE FREAKY TREE STUMPS.

I can't help but remember our last meeting.

At his fancy new lab outside of Washington, D.C. A far cry from this place.

SO YOU WON'T HELP ME?

WHY SHOULD I? YOU'RE FAR TOO HYSTERICAL TO CONTROL POWERS LIKE THAT. IT WOULD END IN A MESS.

YOU'RE A HYPOCRITE, JASON. YOU DON'T STAND FOR ANY-THING.

YOU WON'T HELP ME, BUT YOU'LL SELL BIOWEAPONS TO DICTATORS AND POLICE--

YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I STAND FOR.

I SEE IT CLEARLY. YOU STILL CARE ABOUT ONE KIND OF GREEN.

THE KIND THAT GROWS IN YOUR WALLET.

IF I WANTED TO RULE THE GREEN AGAIN, DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU COULD STOP ME?

LEAVE HERE WITH THE LAMIA SPORES AND I WILL HAUNT YOU TO YOUR GRAVE.

YOU'RE TANGLING WITH SOMETHING YOU CANNOT POSSIBLY CONTROL.

THAT WAS STUPID. YOU NEVER REALLY KNEW WHAT YOU WERE STEALING.

YEAH, THANKS. I see that now.

NO PROBLEM. BY THE WAY, DUCK.

What?

Mmm?

OH, HE'S ABOUT TO CRUSH YOUR SKULL.

!#+@*

COULD YOU TRY TO BE A LITTLE MORE HELPFUL?!

I'm not even real.

I remember when I was **better** at this.

CLANK

When my reflexes weren't dulled by toxins.

POOR LITTLE *SPROUT.*

TOO DRUGGED ON *HALLUCINOGENS* TO FIGHT *BACK.*

I know it looks pretty **dire** right now.

But don't **worry.** I still have one last **trick** up my sleeve.

ADMIT IT. YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T DEFEAT ME. THAT'S NOT WHY YOU CAME HERE.

YOU CAME HERE BECAUSE YOU MISS ME.

YOU CAME HERE TO BEG MY FORGIVENESS. MY PRODIGAL DAUGHTER.

YOU CAME HERE BECAUSE YOU NEED ME.

YOU'VE NEVER UNDERSTOOD A SINGLE THING ABOUT ME.

AND THAT'S WHY YOU'RE ABOUT TO

DIE!

I wasn't exaggerating.

MMPHHL

He's failed to consider something elementary about a parasitic fungus like the lamia.

They evolve and adapt very quickly to their hosts.

And they've spent the last couple of months adapting to me. My unique part-plant, part-human hybrid DNA.

Which, as Woodrue is so fond of reminding me, is very similar to his.

VMPH

They're like my sisters, these parasites.

Unngh--

We were created by the same monster. And now, together, we will destroy him.

But my sisters aren't soft-hearted. They don't make exceptions.

So they will destroy me too.

AAHUHH!

YOU... STUPID LITTLE...

I THINK I'VE LEARNED *EVERYTHING* THERE IS TO *LEARN* FROM YOU, *TEACHER.*

NOW *I'M* THE ONE GIVING *LESSONS.*

For one blissful minute, I think... it's over. It's really over.

I've won.

HURR...

HURR-- HURRR...

HAHAHAH

But the Floronic Man has healing powers even greater than mine.

DID YOU REALLY THINK SOMETHING I CREATED WOULD EVER TRULY BE BEYOND MY CONTROL?

I feel it immediately.

Huh?

I can no longer control my limbs.

YOU NEVER WONDERED WHY YOUR SCHEME TO SPREAD THE LAMIA ACROSS THE ENTIRE COUNTRY HAS FAILED?

My sisters have betrayed me.

N-no-- s-stop--

YOU CREATED A FEW ISOLATED OUTBREAKS. THAT'S IT.

THE LAMIA WERE NEVER MEANT TO BE A WEAPON OF MASS DESTRUCTION.

THEY WERE MADE FOR BIO-SURVEILLANCE AND MIND CONTROL.

JUST LIKE THEIR WILD COUSINS DO WHEN THEY TAKE OVER THE NERVES AND SYNAPSES OF THEIR HOSTS.

YOU SHOULD HAVE MADE **PEACE** WITH ME WHEN YOU HAD THE **CHANCE,** PAMELA ISLEY.

I **WOULD** HAVE SPARED YOUR **LIFE.**

NOW I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU **BEG** FOR IT.

DC COMICS PRESENTS:

POISON IVY

CHAPTER FIVE.

Writer
G. WILLOW WILSON

Artist p. 9-22
MARCIO TAKARA

Pencils p.1-8
BRIAN LEVEL

Inks p.1-8
STEFANO GAUDIANO

Colors
ARIF PRIANTO

Letters
HASSAN OTSMANE-ELHAOU

Cover
JESSICA FONG

Variant covers
STJEPAN ŠEJIĆ AND DAVID TALASKI

1:25 Variant cover
TULA LOTAY

Assistant editor
JESSICA BERBEY

Editor
ARIANNA TURTURRO

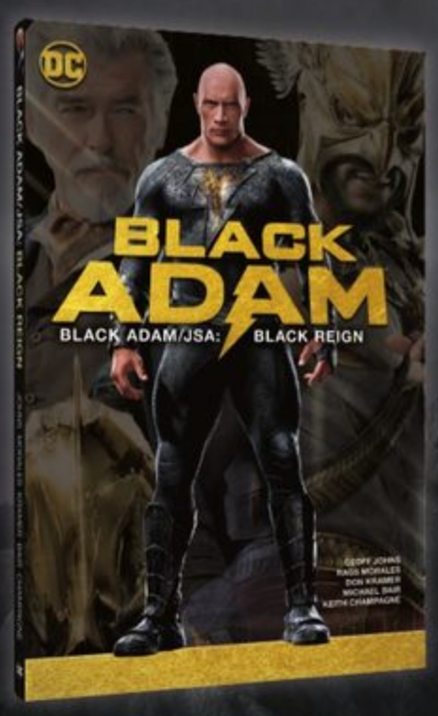
Group editor
BEN ABERNATHY

NEXT: OLD **WOUNDS.**

© & ™ DC.

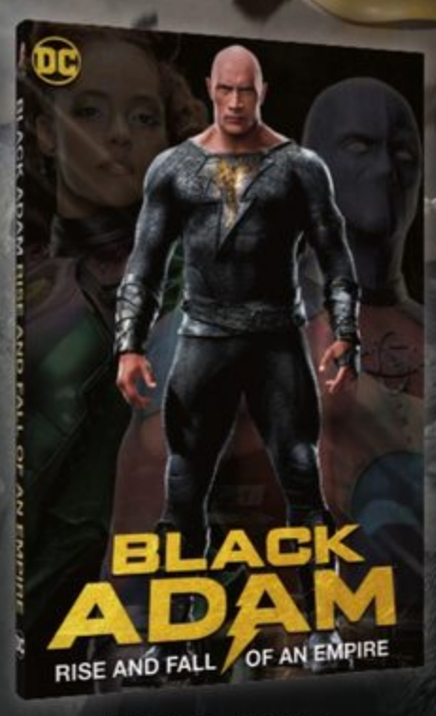
BLACK ADAM

IN THEATERS OCTOBER 21



BLACK ADAM/JSA: BLACK REIGN

BLACK ADAM: THE DARK AGE



BLACK ADAM: RISE AND FALL OF AN EMPIRE

MEET DC'S MOST POWERFUL ANTIHERO IN THESE CLASSIC COMICS STORIES!

DC NATION INTERVIEW

WITH DIRECTOR

JAUME COLLET-SERRA

Did you have any prior knowledge of Black Adam when you started the project?

I'd obviously known Dwayne had been wanting the role for a long time. Once I was brought on, I did a deep dive in the comic books and was surprised to find such a wealth of excitement.

How did you tackle Black Adam's questionable moral code in the film?

I think that's one of the interesting parts of our film. It thematically talks about what makes a hero and who has the right to define what justice is. Black Adam was born 5,000 years ago, when things were very different, and does things his way for what he believes is right. I wouldn't say that Black Adam's moral code is questionable, I would say that it's not contemporary.

What was it like bringing the Justice Society to the screen?

We have Doctor Fate, Hawkman, Cyclone, and Atom Smasher. Hawkman and Doctor Fate are the senior members of the team. For Doctor Fate, he's almost godlike, so to have Pierce Brosnan, who is so warm and sensitive, made it the perfect combination.

Hawkman has a very strict sense of morality and justice. He's a bit of a scientist and a bit of a gladiator. Atom Smasher is a little bit of the new kid on the block. He's someone who's very charming, but also isn't quite sure if he's on the right side. Finally, we have Cyclone, who comes from a linage of heroes and has been imbued with nanotechnology.

How was it working with Dwayne Johnson?

He's great, and after doing two movies together we have a really good relationship and a mutual respect toward each other. We both want the same thing and that's to make fans happy. I think that Dwayne has really stepped up and delivered an incredible performance. He's worked very hard to make this movie special, and I think fans are going to recognize that.

IN THEATERS BEGINNING OCTOBER 21!

DC COMICS MARIE JAVINS Editor-in-Chief, DC Comics ANNE DePIES Senior VP – General Manager JIM LEE Publisher & Chief Creative Officer DON FALLETTI VP – Manufacturing Operations & Workflow Management LAWRENCE GANEM VP – Talent Services ALISON GILL Senior VP – Manufacturing & Operations JEFFREY KAUFMAN VP – Editorial Strategy & Programming NICK J. NAPOLITANO VP – Manufacturing Administration & Design NANCY SPEARS VP – Revenue

POISON IVY 5. December, 2022. Published monthly by DC Comics, 4000 Warner Blvd, Bldg. 700, 2nd Floor, Burbank, CA 91522.. GST # is R125921072. Copyright © 2022 DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. All characters featured in this issue, the distinctive likenesses thereof, and related elements are trademarks of DC Comics. The stories, characters, and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. DC Comics does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork. For Advertising and Custom Publishing contact dccomicsadvertising@dccomics.com. For details on DC Comics Ratings, visit dc.com/ratings.

SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN... THIS MONSTER!"